

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph [0124] with the following:

In an embodiment of the present invention shown in Figure 14 through Figure 16, a registered user of the DCE 100 is provided with an accessible data storage (locker) 122 for the storage of digital media data. The DCE locker 122 maintains a record or copy of known media items legally owned by the registered locker owner. The DCE 100 does ~~not~~ reproduce the file for items in the locker, but maintains a database record of the items contained in each locker 122.

Please replace the Abstract with the following:

An apparatus and method for enabling commercial exchange of copyrighted digital media and other digital files ~~(104)~~ where there is a fee due to the owner ~~(102)~~, such as but are not limited to, music, movies, books, software, games and photos. This structure will compensate the copyright owner (102) and the seller or referrer ~~(106)~~ completely within the existing laws. For a fee, a service provider ~~(100)~~ verifies for all parties to a transaction that the transaction is legal and the file or digital media is correct and without faults, as well as the proper routing of payment to all properly represented parties. It is simply a structure that will operate as all exchanges do, to facilitate the legal transfer of assets and money.